

Final Environmental Impact Statement and Proposed Land-use Plan Amendments for the Energy Gateway South Transmission Project

Lead Agency:	U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Wyoming State Office	
Cooperating Agencies:	U.S. Forest Service – Intermountain Region U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – South Pacific Division U.S. Army Environmental Center U.S. Department of Defense – Navy Region Southwest Bureau of Indian Affairs – Western Region U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Mountain-Prairie Region National Park Service Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission State of Wyoming State of Colorado State of Utah Carbon and Sweetwater counties, Wyoming Mesa, Moffat, and Rio Blanco counties, Colorado Carbon, Duchesne, Emery, Grand, Juab, Sanpete, Uintah, and Wasatch counties, Utah Wyoming Conservation Districts (Little Snake River, Medicine Bow, Saratoga-Encampment-Rawlins, and Sweetwater County)	
Type of Action:	Right-of-way Grant from the Bureau of Land Management Special-use Authorization from the U.S. Forest Service	
Project Location:	Carbon and Sweetwater counties, Wyoming Garfield, Mesa, Moffat, Rio Blanco, and Routt counties, Colorado Carbon, Duchesne, Emery, Grand, Juab, Sanpete, Uintah, Utah, and Wasatch counties, Utah	
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Availability period:	30 days after the publication of the Notice of Availability in the <i>Federal Register</i>	

ABSTRACT

This Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been prepared to analyze and disclose the impacts of granting a right-of-way across federal land to PacifiCorp (doing business as Rocky Mountain Power, the Applicant) for the purpose of constructing, operating, and maintaining the single-circuit, alternating-current, 500-kilovolt transmission line and amending Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service land-use plans to accommodate the proposed transmission line. The transmission line would begin near Medicine Bow, Carbon County, Wyoming, at the planned Aeolus Substation and would extend

south and west to the Clover Substation near Mona, Juab County, Utah, a distance between 400 and 500 miles, depending on the route selected. The Project also would include (1) constructing two series compensation stations at points between the Aeolus and Clover substations to improve transport capacity and efficiency of the transmission line, (2) adding new substation equipment for electrically connecting the transmission line at the Aeolus and Clover substations and the existing Mona Substation, (3) constructing communication regeneration stations associated with the transmission line, (4) constructing access roads to the transmission line structures where needed and where existing access is not available, (5) constructing other ancillary facilities, (6) rebuilding and reconfiguring two existing 345kV transmission lines between the Clover and Mona substations, (7) rerouting the existing Mona to Huntington 345kV transmission line through the Clover Substation, and, depending on the route selected, (8) relocating an approximate 2-mile section of an existing transmission line (the Bears Ears to Bonanza 345kV transmission line) to eliminate multiple line crossings in a short distance. The EIS analyzes the Proposed Action and several alternatives, including taking no action, and assesses the potential impacts on the natural, human, and cultural environment of implementing the Proposed Action or alternatives. Under the Proposed Action, the Bureau of Land Management would issue a right-of-way grant and the U.S. Forest Service would issue a special use authorization for constructing, operating, and maintaining the proposed transmission line and associated facilities. Depending on the route selected for the transmission line, other potentially affected agencies may tie to the analysis in this EIS in issuing decisions and similar use authorizations.